

RECOVERY FUNDS AT WORK IN OHIO'S SIXTH DISTRICT
Rep. Wilson Announces \$250 Recovery Payments to Social Security & SSI
Beneficiaries Starting Today

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) announced that the \$250 economic recovery payments for Social Security recipients, provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will begin to go out today, May 6, 2009. The goal is to have all of the payments sent out by the end of May.

In Ohio's Sixth Congressional District, 137,280 adults receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income will be receiving a \$250 payment.

"I've heard from senior citizens across the district who tell me how much help they need paying for their medical care, utilities, housing, and groceries. Some of our seniors and our disabled citizens have been hit particularly hard by this recession. I hope this \$250 payment gives them a little relief and helps our economy."

Millions of the Social Security recipients receiving these payments are widowed, divorced, or single and among the seniors with the lowest average incomes.

These payments will make a difference because:

- Social Security is the only source of income for nearly one-third of all nonmarried seniors receiving Social Security.
- The median annual income for nonmarried Social Security recipients over age 65 who are women is only \$13,151. The median annual income of nonmarried Social Security recipients over age 65 who are men is only \$17,611.
- Nearly 30 percent of nonmarried Social Security recipients who are women over age 65 are poor or near-poor – with 17.4 percent living below the federal poverty line and another 10.8 percent with incomes below 125 percent of the poverty line.

In addition to the economic recovery payments being made to Social Security and SSI recipients, the Recovery Act also provides these payments to disabled veterans and Railroad Retirement recipients. The payments to Railroad Retirement recipients are scheduled to begin to go out in late May and the payments to disabled veterans in June. In total, more than 50 million Americans will get this one-time payment.

If someone regularly receives benefits from two or more of these programs – such as Social Security and Railroad Retirement, or a disabled veterans' benefit and SSI – he or she will receive just one \$250 payment.

